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STATINTL

Too Many Bunk Books

The number of "bunk books" inaccurately and even falsely discussing important national and international personages, organizations and events under the guise of "factual documentation" and "historical recording" is appalling. What is even more appalling is the fact that most of these books are put forth by publishing firms of high repute and often come from authors whose biographies make them at least appear important and worthy of belief.

Many such books concerning Cuba and Castro have been published since the island dictator came into power. Usually they are written by Americans—often by college professors and sometimes by ex-newspapermen and they concentrate on an anti-American and pro-Castro stand. Sometimes this is brazen, sometimes slightly camouflaged.

Most of the authors of these Cuba books are "joiners" of numerous organizations that low-rate their own country and high-rate socialistic and communistic facets of other countries without actually using such words as "Communism" and "Socialism" in praiseworthy manner.

A number of such books also have been written on the House Un-American Activities Committee. The general theme usually is to picture the Committee as itself un-American, and the Communists, fellow travelers and dopes which it exposes as persons whose liberties and freedoms are being downtrodden by dictatorial power in a manner destructive to human decency.

Of late, there have been some books of the same type concerning the Central Intelligence Agency, and its worldwide activities under Allen Dulles. Some of these books appear to be aimed at undercutting Mr. Dulles under pretense of revealing the "inside story" of super-secret CIA activities.

One of the most amazing of these volumes is "CIA: The Inside Story" by Andrew Tully, published by one of the best known publishers in the nation and selling above the average price for non-fiction "documentaries."

Mr. Tully formerly was columnist for a newspaper chain. He was a good one. He also wrote a book, *THE MUSICAL AGENDA*, which

apparently was a rather factual and very interesting account of the trials and tribulations of that Secret Service type of fellow who investigates for the U.S. Treasury.

But in his CIA book, Mr. Tully has gone overboard completely. He uses a German Secret Service agent's version of an incident

involving Mr. Dulles in War II without presenting the well known and exactly opposite version which has been given by Mr. Dulles. He ties Mr. Dulles indirectly into a German banking house through a British connection, a tie-in long ago exploded as factually false in all of its implications. He discusses "why" General MacArthur "disregarded" supposed CIA intelligence information that the Red Chinese would attack in Korea. This is absurd.

In the first place, the Red Chinese publicly announced repeatedly by radio that they would attack. General MacArthur was blocked by President Truman from taking any counter steps either as to reconnaissance or espionage or winning the war against the Red Chinese after they did attack in what amounted to a second Korean war—General MacArthur's forces having destroyed the North Korean Communists.

As if giving the content of the Tully book some official stamp of approval, there is a formal acknowledgment in it of what is called a "considerable debt of gratitude" by the author to Mr. Dulles and other high officials. But when Mr. Dulles was invited by the publishers to comment on the book he made this public statement:

"The Tully book, in my opinion, does not contain 'the facts' about the CIA. In part it is a combination of rumor, hearsay and repetition of previously published speculations about the CIA. Much of the book is fiction. In his description of the CIA, it contains gross inaccuracies and distortions. Some statements in the book are repetition of Communist propaganda which over the years has been directed toward the CIA by Moscow and its agents."